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FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS ANGOLA VERIFICATION MISSION

Report of the Fifth Committee (Part II)

Rapporteur: Mr. Peter MADDENS (Belgium)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 123 appear in the report of the Committee contained in document A/50/845.

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 56th and resumed 64th meetings, on 6 May and 3 June 1996. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/50/SR.56 and 64).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/50/651/Add.3) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/50/814/Add.1 and Corr.1).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.5/50/L.56

4. At the resumed 64th meeting, on 3 June, the representative of Portugal introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission" (A/C.5/50/L.56), submitted by the Chairman of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/50/L.56 without a vote (see para. 6).

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III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission 1/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/

Bearing in mind Security Council resolutions 626 (1988) of 20 December 1988, by which the Council established the United Nations Angola Verification Mission, 696 (1991) of 30 May 1991, by which the Council decided to entrust a new mandate to the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (thenceforth called the United Nations Angola Verification Mission II), 976 (1995) of 8 February 1995, by which the Council authorized the establishment of a peace-keeping operation in Angola (thenceforth called the United Nations Angola Verification Mission III), and its subsequent resolutions, the latest of which was resolution 1055 (1996) of 8 May 1996, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Verification Mission until 11 July 1996,

Recalling its resolution 43/231 of 16 February 1989 on the financing of the Verification Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 50/209 of 23 December 1995,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Verification Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Verification Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

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1/ A/50/651/Add.3.

2/ A/50/814/Add.1 and Corr.1.

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Verification Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Concerned that the Secretary-General continues to face difficulties in meeting the obligations of the Verification Mission on a current basis, including reimbursement to current and former troop-contributing States,

1. Notes the status of contributions to the United Nations Angola Verification Mission as at 21 May 1996, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 52,802,286 United States dollars, representing 10 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Verification Mission to the period ending 30 April 1996, notes also that some 16 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peace-keeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Verification Mission in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

6. Decides that, when election activities resume, eleven posts that have been transferred from election-related activities to administrative and support functions will be returned to election-related activities;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Verification Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

8. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Angola Verification Mission the amount of 65,912,903 dollars gross (63,067,742 dollars net) already authorized and assessed under the terms of General Assembly resolution 49/227 B of 20 July 1995 for the period from 9 August to 31 December 1995;

9. Decides also to appropriate the amount of 84,687,300 dollars gross (83,190,300 dollars net) already authorized under the terms of General Assembly resolution 50/209 for the period from 9 February to 8 May 1996;

10. Decides further, as an ad hoc arrangement, and taking into account the amount of 76,218,600 dollars gross (74,871,300 dollars net) already apportioned under the terms of resolution 50/209, to apportion an additional amount of 8,468,700 dollars gross (8,319,000 dollars net) for the period from 9 February to 8 May 1996 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995 and 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1996, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and decision 50/471 A of 22 December 1995;

11. Decides that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 10 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the additional estimated staff assessment income of 149,700 dollars approved for the period from 9 February to 8 May 1996;

12. Decides also to appropriate the amount of 47,988,900 dollars gross (47,140,600 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Verification Mission for the period from 9 May to 30 June 1996 already authorized under the terms of General Assembly resolution 50/209;

13. Decides further, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 47,988,900 dollars gross (47,140,600 dollars net) for the period from 9 May to 30 June 1996 among Member States, in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution;

14. Decides that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 13 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 848,300 dollars approved for the period from 9 May to 30 June 1996;

15. Notes the Secretary-General's cost estimate in the amount of 335,140,000 dollars gross (328,230,000 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Verification Mission for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997;

16. Decides to appropriate the amount of 169,118,500 dollars gross (165,984,100 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Verification Mission for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1996, inclusive of the amount of 4,048,500 dollars for the support account for peace-keeping operations and, subject to the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, an additional amount of 1,000,000 dollars for administrative and logistic support services, including contract supervision, to be assessed on Member States at a monthly rate of 28,186,410 dollars gross (27,664,010 dollars net), in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution, subject to the decision by the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Verification Mission beyond 11 July 1996;

17. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 16 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 3,134,400 dollars approved for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1996;

18. Requests the Secretary-General to submit the performance reports for the Verification Mission and to provide updated cost estimates for the period from 1 January to 30 June 1997, as appropriate, no later than 1 November 1996, including information on administrative and logistic support services as well as contract supervision;

19. Invites voluntary contributions to the Verification Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;

20. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission".